

CHARTER INCORPORATING THE TRADES OF GATESHEAD, 1671.

BY BRO. W. H. KYLANDS, F.S.A.



It was my good fortune, many years ago, to have the opportunity of copying the whole of the text of this Charter: and now at the request of some of our members I have much pleasure in printing it in full.

An account of it has already appeared, so early as the year 1863, of which the following is a copy:—

Herald and Genealogist, edited by John Gough Nichols, F.S.A., vol. I. 1863. pp. 128-129. . Heraldic Exhibition at the Society of Antiquaries. Charter Incorporating several of the Trades of Gateshead, under the sign manual and palatine seal of John Cosin, Bishop of Durham, 24th April, 1671. The trades enumerated are Free Masons, Carvers, Stonecutters, Sculptures, (*sic*) Brickmakers, Tilers, Bricklayers, Glaziers, Penterstainers, Founders, Nailers, Pewterers, Founders, Plumbers, Millwrights, Saddlers and Bridlers, Trunckmakers, and Distillers of all sorts of Strong waters and other liquors whom the charter constitutes into one corporation and sets forth laws for their government.¹ It is decorated at the top with the royal arms and those of the church of Durham,² and at the sides with twelve shields, four of which are left blank, and eight contain the achievements³ of—

1. Freemasons. Sable on a chevron between three towers or, a pair of compasses open chevronwise azure. Crest, A tower or. The lord is all ovr trvst.

2. Bricklayers and Tilers. Azure, a chevron, or, in chief a fleur de lis argent between two brick-axes pale-wise of the second, in base a bundle of laths of the same. Crest, a dexter arm embowed, vested per pale or and gules, cuffed argent, holding in the hand proper a brick-axe or. In god is al ovr trvst.

¹ In the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1862 will be found an article by W. H. D. Longstaffe, Esq., F.S.A. (read before a Building Society of Gateshead), giving the history of the Guilds of that town, and full of interesting particulars. It there appears that the Barkers and Tanners of Gateshead were incorporated by Bishop Tunstall in 1557; the Weavers by Bishop Barnes, temp. Eliz.; the Dyers, Fullers, Blacksmiths, Locksmiths, Cutlers, Joiners and Carpenters by Bishop Mathew in 1594; the Cordwainers by the same Bishop in 1602; the Drapers, Tailors, Mercers, Hardwaremen, Coopers and Chandlers by Oliver Cromwell; the Free Masons, &c., by the document noticed in the text; and the Grocers, Apothecaries and Pipemakers by Bishop Crewe in 1676. The seal of the Corporation formed in 1594 is preserved and bears a quartered shield of the arms of 1, Fullers and Dyers; 2, Smiths; 3, Cutlers; and 4, Joiners.

² Azure a cross patonce between four lions rampant or.

³ In these there are some small variations from the arms of the London Companies, and others have been observed in those of the Companies of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

3. Glaziers. Azure, two grozing irons in saltire between four closing nails sable, on a chief gu. a lion pass. guardant or. Crest, a lion's head coupé or, between two wings expanded of the same. Supporters, two naked boys proper, each holding a long torch enflamed or.

4. Sculptors [*Note.* Answering to the Marblers of London]. Gules, a chevron between two chipping-axes in chief argent, and a mallet in base or. Crest, a dexter arm embowed azure, cuffed argent, holding in the hand proper an engraving chisel or.

5. Painter-Stainers. Azure, a chevron between three phoenix heads erased or. Crest, a phoenix close or, in flames proper. Supporters, Two leopards argent, spotted sable, ducally crowned, collared and chained or. "Amor qreat obediencia."

6. Pewterers. Azure on a chevron or between three antique limbecks argent as many roses gules. Crest, two arms embowed proper, holding in both arms erect a dish argent. In god is all my trust. Supporters, two sea horses or, their tails proper.

7. Plumbers. Argent, on a chevron sable, between a cross-staff fessways of the same, inclosed by two plummetts azure, all in chief, and a level reversed in base of the second, two soldering-irons in saltire or, between a cutting-knife on the dexter and a shave-hook on the sinister argent. Crest, a triple fountain argent, issuing water proper, on the top an angel holding in the dexter hand a sword, in the sinister a pair of scales all or.

8. Saddlers. Azure a chevron between three manage saddles complete or. Crest, a horse passant argent, on his head a plume of three feathers of the same. Supporters, two horses argent, hoofed or, and bridled. Ovr trust is in god.

The Corporation was empowered to have a Common Seal, which bears a shield of four of the Trades quarterly :—1, Masons; 2, Pewterers; 3, Bricklayers; 4, Glaziers; No supporters, but mantling. Crest, the Tower of the Masons.

This document passed from Mrs. Green, the widow of the last surviving Free Mason, to Alderman Reveley, who presented it to its present possessor, W. H. Brockett, Esq.

To this description may be added a few notes. The Charter is written in long lines on two skins of parchment, on one side only: the first of these measures thirty-two and a quarter inches by twenty-five inches. At the bottom a piece of each skin is turned over, and tied with red and gold cord, from which the seal is suspended: the turn over bears the signature, Jo: Dursm.

The top margin is highly decorated: beginning on the dexter edge, is an oval with coloured ornaments bearing the words, in gold letters, DURESME, then follows

the Royal Arms in a garter, with supporters, crest, etc., and lastly the Arms of Durham. The spaces between these are filled in with vases of flowers and other ornaments in colour. The Arms of the Trades running down the margins are separated by festoons of flowers, fruit, etc., also in colour.

The second sheet of parchment, is about four inches shorter than the first so as to allow the ornamental head line to be seen when the deed is open. This second sheet has six Arms on the margins divided as before by wreaths and ornaments. The first on the dexter side is that of the plumbers, the other two shields are blank. The first on the sinister side is the saddlers with supporters two horses rampant argent bridled sable, the other two shields are blank.

The four blank shields, unlike all the others on the deed, have no helms or mantlings, and there is no arrangement for them to be added; they are surrounded by scrolls in gold and colours.

Various corrections and additions have been made to the text, before the Charter was executed, all these I have incorporated in the text. Alterations were evidently made in the names given on the first sheet: for example, the names of Matthew Arkley and John Smith are written over erasures; and those of Michael Walton, John Shawe, Willyam ffowthrop, John Hunter and William Wharram are interlineated. Again in the next list, the names of Michael Walton and Mathew Arkley are written over erasures, as also those of John Smith and John Clarke; the same names from John Shawe to Willyam Wharram being interlineated.

There is a large pendant seal of dark wax. The charter is endorsed in engrossing hand.

Mr Recordo in Rotlis Claūs Cancellar'
Dunelm decimo die Junii Anno
Re Caroli Secundi nunc Angl. &c.
Vicessimo tertio Annoq; : Dñi
1671. p. Jo Crosby.

The Arms as borne by the various trades of Gateshead are interesting from the differences made in the colours. When Mr. James Walker and Mr. M. A. Richardson issued the engravings of Arms in their "Armorial Bearings of the several Incorporated Companies of Newcastle on Tyne" (1824), they were so simple as to try and reproduce the Arms of the Companies of London, instead of recording the peculiarities found in the Arms of the Companies they were describing; thus completely destroying any value their plates might possess.

[FIRST SHEET].

John, by the Grace of God Bishop of Durham To all to whome these Presents shall come greeting Knowe yee that wee partly the examples of diverse Well instituted Citties Boroughs & Townes as well within the County Pallatine of Durham as alsoe throughout the whole Realme of England following & partly assenting & consenting to the Suite & humble request of Ralph Cole Barronet George Davenport Clerke Miles Stapylton Esquire George Kirsby the younger Henry Frisoll gentlemen Robt Trollap Isaac Hensell Mathew Arekley Henry Trollap James Clarke, Charles Middleton Withm Saunders John Mathers Luke Lupton Brian Stobs George Lupton Withm Arkley Thomas Bell John Smith John Clarke the elder John Clarke the younger John Moore John Teasdale John Rawling, Michael Walton John Shawe Willyam fflowthrop John Hunter Willyam Wharram Withm Catherington honest persons now exereiseing & occupieing the severall trades artes misteries crafts faeulties & occupacons of free Masons Carvers stone Cutters Sculptures Brick makers Tilers Bricklayers Glasyers Penterstainers Founders Neilers Powderers Founders Plumbers Millwrights Sadlers & Bridlers Trunk makers & distillers of all sorts of strong waters or other liquors within our Towne & Borough of Gateside in the County Pallatine of Durham inclined to the honour & glory of all mighty God & for the eomon ptt quiet state & regiment aswell of our whole Borough & Towne of Gateside aforesaid as of all & singuler persons as well now as hereafter the arts misteries or occupacons aforesaid there exereiseing professing & practising as alsoe according to the laudable custome & vsage tyme wherof the memorie of man is not to the contrarie within the Towne & Borough of Gateside aforesaid hertofore vsed & received a certaine Comnity (sic) or fellowship of the aforesaid honest men who the severall trades arts misteries & scienees & occupacons of free Masons Carvers stone cutters sculpters Brick makers Tilers Brick layers Glasyers Penterstainers Founders Neileres Powderes Founders Plumbers Millwrights Sadlers & Bridlers Trunk makers & distillers of all sorts of strong waters and other liquors aforesaid or Any of them within the Borough and Towne of Gateside aforesaid nowe do or hereafter shall exereise trade or occupie will have instituted and begunn And therefore wee doe alsoe by these psents grant vnto the aforesaid S^r Ralph Cole George Davenporte Miles Stapylton Georg Kirkby Robt Trollap Henry Frisoll Michael Walton Isaac Hensell Mathew Arekley henry Trollap James Clarke Charles Middleton Withm Saunders John Mathers Luke Lupton Brian Stobs George Lupton Withm Arkley Thomas Bell John Smith John Clarke the Elder John Clarke the younger John Moore John Teasdale John Rawling & John Shawe Willyam fflowthrop John hunter Willyam Wharram. Withm Katherington for vs & our Suceessors as much as in vs is that they and all the occupiers of the said trades arts misteries scienees and Faculties and every or any of them within the Lordshipp Borough and Towne of Gateside aforesaid shall be in deed & name, one community, fellowship body pollatiq & incorporat ppetuall. And that they by the name of Comunitie fellowship & company of the arts misteries & occupacons of free Masons earvers stone cutters Sculptures Brick makers tilers Brick layers Glasyers Penterstainers ffounders Neilers penderers ffounders Plumbers Millwrights Sadlers & Bridlers trunk makers and distillers of all sorts of strong waters and other liquors within the said Borough & Towne of Gateside may be & by vertue of these p'sents be really actually & fully incorporated treated made & erected one body eorporate & pollatiq to all intents and purposses & have ppetuall suecession & be called & knowne by the name of the Cominaltie fellowship and company of free Masons Carvers Stone cutters Sculptures

Brick makers tilers Brick layers Glaysiers Penterstainers ffounders Neilers Puterers ffounders Plumbers Mill wrights Sadlers and bridlers Trunck makers & distillers of all sorts of strong waters and other liquors within the Towne & Borough of Gateside in the County Pallatine of Durham And that by the name of the Comunalty fellowship & company of the arts misteries & occupaõnes of ffree masons Carvers stone Cutters Sculptars Brick makers tilers Brick layers Glaysiers Penterstainers founders Neilers Puterers founders Plumbers Mill wrights Sadlers & Bridlers Trunck makers & distillers of all sorts of strong waters & other liquors within the Borough & Towne of Gateside within the County Pallatine of Durham they may sue & be sued in any Court or Courts within the Realme of England. And that the said Comunalty or fellowship every yeare for ever shall & may choose & make of the said Cominalty fower pvident & expert men who the said arts occupaõns trades sciences or misteries aforesaid or some of them doe well know & the same or some of them within the lordshippe towne & Burough of Gateside aforesaid by the space of thre continual years at the least next before such eleõion have vsed exercised practised & traded & in the said Towne by the like space & tearme have continuallie been inhabiting & abideing to be wardens of the Commialty & fellowshippe aforesaid as well as to take vpon them the survey knowledge & Government for that yeare of th[e] fellowshippe or commialtie aforesaid & of all psons of the lor[d]shippe towne & Burough aforesaid there vseing the said severall arts misteries trades or occupaõns or any of them & alsoe of all other psons whatso[e]ver forreiners occupieing exerciseing tradeing or vseing any of the said sevall occupaõns within the lordshippe Towne & Burough aforesaid. And alsoe to have the punishment of all & everie the said psons for their offences in forme hereafter by the said wardens for the time being by and with the assent & consent of the greater parte of the said Commialtie & fellowshippe to be set downe & described by vs & our successors for the time being to be appved ratified & confirmed And that the said Wardens comunaltie or fellowshippe shall & maie have a ppetuall succession & comon seale for their affaires called the seale of the warden & Comunalty or fellowship of Free Masons Carvers stone cutters sculptars Brick layers Tilers Brick makers Glaysiers Penterstainers founders Neilers Puterers founders Plumbers Millwrights Sadlers & bridlers trunck makers & distillers of all sorts of strong waters & other liquors within the Borough of Gateside for ever to serve. And that they y^e aforesaid wardens & Comunalty & their successors may lawfullie make honest & lawfull assemblies orders ordinances & constituõns for the goverment oversight & Corection of the said comunaltie of fellowshippe of all persons tradeinge practisenge vseing or occupieing the arts trades sciences or occupaõns aforesaid or any of them within the lordshippe Borough & Towne aforesaid soe that the said ordinances & constituõns may not anyway be repugnant & contrarie to his maiesties royall prerogative or to the lawes of this realme by vs & our successors to the lawes statutes & ordinances of this Realme agreable & therunto in noe poynte contrary contradictory or repugnant by vs & our Successors for the time being first to be pused allowed ratified & approved to be put in execuõon within the said Burough or Towne lawfully & without the hinderance of vs & our said Successors the Justices Sheriffe Escheator & Chancellor of the County Pallatine of Durham or any other our Bayliffes whatsoever And that Robt Trollap Isaac hensell luke lupton & Charles Midleton be by the authoritie force & vertue of these our Letters Pattents the first fower Wardens of the corporaõon or companie of ffree masons Carvers stone cutters Sculptures Brick makers tilers Brick layers Glaisiers Penter stainers ffounders Neilers Puterers founders Plumbers Mill wrights Sadlers & bridlers trunck makers & distillers of all sorts of strong waters or other liquors within

the Borough & Towne of Gateside aforesaid. And [? that] they may remaine in the said office from the day of the date of these p^{re}sents for . . . [? &] untill the twenty fourth day of June comenlie called Mid-Sumer-day which shall be in the yeare of our lord God one thousand six hundred seventy & two & soe to continue untill other fouer of the companie aforesaid be chosen & sworne unto the said office of wardens And furthermore that whensoever it shall happen any of the said wardens for the time being to die or be removed from their place which shall be removeable at the discrecion of the greater parte of the said companie of freemasons Carvers stonecutters Sculptures Brick makers tilers Bricklayers Glaysiers Penterstainers founders Neilers puterers founders Plumbers Millwrights Sadlers bridlers trunck makers & distillers of all sorts of strong waters or other liquors within the Borough & Towne of Gateside aforesaid that then and soe often it shall & may be lawfull for the residue of the said companie or the greater parte of them within the space of one month after such avoidaunce one other or more of the corpora^{ti}on aforesaid into the place or place or places [*sic*] of him or them soe dying or being removed to choose n^oimate & appoint & this soe often to doe as the Cause shall require or as the greater parte of the said company shall think fitt or conveinent. (one of which said Wardens must allwaies bee a free mason) KNOW yee alsoe that wee have seen certaine orders ordinances & constitu^{ti}ons allreadie agreed vpon & set downe by the aforesaid honest men who now doe exercise the said severall occupa^{ti}ons of freemasons Carvers stone cutters Sculptures Brick makers tilers Brick layers Glaysiers Penterstainers founders Neilers Peuterers founders Plumbers Millwrights Sadlers bridlers trunck makers & Distillers of all sorts of strong waters & other liquors within the Burough & Towne of Gateside aforesaid for the good order & Government of all those that now vse exercise & occupie the said severall Trades artes misteries Crafts faculties sciences & occupa^{ti}ons within the Borough & Towne of Gateside aforesaid for themselves and all other that hereafter shall vse exercise & occupie the said trades arts misteries & sciences crafts ffaculties & occupa^{ti}ons or any of them within the Borough & Towne of Gateside aforesaid the tenure whereof doth follow (that is to saie It is thought good ordered & set downe for the comon benefitt of his maiesties subiects & espeeiallie of those residat within the Towne & Burough of Gateside in the County of Durham aforesaid by all the now occupiers of the severall trades arts misteries crafts faculties sciences & occupa^{ti}ons of free masons Carvers stone cutters Sculptures Brick makers tilers Brick layers Glaysiers Penterstainers founders Neilers penterers founders Plumbers Mill wrights Sadlers bridlers tranek makers & distillers of all sorts of strong waters & other liquors within the Towne & Burough of Gateside aforesaid for themselves & all others that hereafter shall vse occupie & exercise the said severall trades arts misteries crafts faculties sciences & occupa^{ti}ons or any of them within the said Burough & Towne of Gateside in manner & forme following First that all & every the said freemasons Carvers stone cutters Sculpture[s] Brickm[a]kers

[SECOND SHEET].

Tilers bricklayers Glaisers Penterstainers founders Neilers penterers Plumbers founders Sadlers bridlers mill-wrights Truncke makers distillers of all sorts of strong waters & other liquors who by the grace of God shall hereafter be members of the Comunaltie fellowship & company of the arts misteries sciences trades & occupacons aforesaid within the borough & towne of Gateside shall upon the fouer and twentieth day of June comonly called the feast of St. John Baptist yearly for ever assemble themselves together in some convenient place within the Towne of Gateside aforesaid before nine of the clock in the fore noone of the same day & there shall by the greater number of theire Voices elect & chuse fouer of the said fellowshippe to be theire wardens & one other fitt person to be Clarke of the said Comunaltie to continue for one whole yeare next following & shall vpon the same day make freemen & brethren & shall vpon the said fover & twentieth day of June and att three other feasts or times in the yeare that is to saie the feast of St Michael the archangel St. John day in Christenmas & the five & twentieth day of March comonly called the Annunciatōn of our blessed lady or mary the Virgin yearly for ever assemble themselves together in some convenient place within y^e said Towne of Gateside before nine of the clock in the forenoone of the same daies & there shall alsoe consult agree vpon & set downe such orders acts & constitucons concerneing theire occupacons as by them or the said fellowship or the greater parte of them shall be thought necessarie & expedient for the comon wealth of the said Comunaltie & convenient to be sett downe & agreed vpon.

And that all and everie the persons that now doe or hereafter shall fortune to exercise & trade any of the aforesaid occupacons or sciences within the said Borough & towne of Gateside shall for ever be tyed to observe fulfill & obey such orders as by the said wardens & companie in forme aforesaid shall be then and there sett downe & afterwards allowed vpon by the lord Bishopp of Durham for the time being & his successors & that the said eleccon & assemblies shall yearly be made at the same daies & tymes at such places within the said Borough as by the wardens for the time being or one of them shall be agreed vpon & ratified Vnto the said company.

Item it is further thought good agreed vpon & sett downe that whosoever shall att any time hereafter set up & occupie any the said trades sciences or occupacons within the said borough & lordshippe of Gateside aforesaid that have not served seaven yeares as an Apprentice in the same occupacon according to the lawes shall forfeit for every moneth that he shall soc occupie the sūme of forty shillings the one moyetie thereof to the Bishopp of Durham for the time being & his Successors & the other to the said wardens for the time being informeing of the same to the vse of the said Comunaltie.

Item it is agreed vpon & sett downe that if any Subiect or allien denizen or other that hath been & served as an apprentice at any of the said occupacons without the said borough shall at any time hereafter sett vpp the same & occupie any the said occupacons within the said borough & lor[d]shippe before he shall pay to the said wardens & Comunaltie to the vse aforesaid the sūme of ten pounds & to the Bishopp of Durham for the time being the like sūme of tenn pounds for an agreement & shall have a certificate from the Bpp for the time being or from his officer for that purpose assigned testifeing his allowance of such psons as aforesaid & therevpon shall be admitted by the said wardens for the time being under theire comon seale that then such offenders shall for everie month that he shall soc occupie forfeit five pounds the one moitie to the said wardens & Comunaltie for the time being & the other moitie to the said Bishopp of Durham for the time being & his successors as a paine or forfeiture to be levied by

distresse by the said wardens or some of them within one month next after to be by them paid over to the hands of the Bishopp aforesaid or to the hands of his Receiv' in the Exchequer in Durham.

Item if any within the Borough shall take an apprentice in any of the said occupacons for any lesse tyme then seven yeares he shall according to the statute thereof forfeit for everie offence the sume of five pounds the one moyetie to y^e said Bishopp of Durham for the time being & his successors & the other moyetie to the said wardens (informeing for the same) to the vse of the said fellowship for the time being to be recovered by bill plaint or suite in some of the Courts att Durham or in any other Court or Courts whatsoever within the Realme of England.

Item that if any borne Denizen or not denizen or any other forreiner not knowne or brought upp within the said Borough as an apprentice shall att any time hereafter sett up or occupie any of the said trades or occupacons before menconed within the said Borough or lordshippe of Gateside befor the Bpp of Durham for the time being or his successors have examined & be made acquainted with the qualitie state religion & honestie of such allien stranger forreiner & of his cause of comeing there & have allowed of such persons & beneficiall fitt & unlawfully hurtfully to the comonweale of the said Borough & artificers or otherwise that then every such offender shall for every month that he shall sett upp or occupie any of the said occupacons within the Towne & lordshippe of Gateside aforesaid forfeit & pay the sume of six pounds thirteen shillings & fower pence to be levied by the said wardens or any of them for the time being by way of distresse in such manner & order as heretofore have bin used within the said Borough as a paine or forfeiture for every such offence the one moiety thereof to the Bishopp of Durham for the time being & his Successors & the other moiety to the said wardens for the time being for the use of the said Societie fellowshippe comunaltie.

Item it is agreed vpon & sett downe that if any of the said comunalty or any of the said occupacons with in the said Borough & Countie shall unlawfully intice seduce receive refeine or koepe from any of the said Comunaltie for the time being any his Serrants or Apprentices at any time dureing the tyme of his service or apprenticeshippe that then every such offender shall according to the statute therein forfeit the sume of five pounds the one moiety to the said Bishop of Durham for the time being & his Successors & the other moiety to the said wardens for the time being that for the same will informe to the vse of the said Societie to be likewise recovered by bill plaint accon informacon or indictment in any of the Courts at Durham or in any other Court or Courts within the Realme of England.

Item it is likewise agreed vpon & sett downe that if anie of the said societie or any other of the said occupacons shall att any time hereafter of a malicious or covetous minde by any extraordinary indirect unhonest or unlawfull practice or meanes withdrawe or seeke to gett from any of the said Societie any his Customers or accustomed woorke which any of the said comunaltie is before customed with & is willing & able to woorke & discharge himselfe and if any of the said Comunaltie shall att any time by brawling quarrelling or other slanderous reproachfull or contentious words or deeds abuse any of the said Comunalty fellowship or Company at any the said times of the said assemblies or if any of the said society doe at any time absent himselfe & come not to the said assemblies not haveing any reasonable excuse thereof to bee allowed of the greater number of the said Societie that then shall be psent or if any of the said Societie for the time being shall att any time hereafter shew himselfe wilfull

disobedient & untoward in the execucon of or in any of the said orders herein expressed by & in the Judgement of the greater number of the sade (*sic*) Comunaltie that then such fines shall be by the said wardens imposed or assessed & levied vpon every such offender as by the greater parte of the said Societie shall be thought sufficient haveing regarde to the qualitie of the offence and if such wilfull psons will not willingly obey & undergoe such order fine & punishment but still shall persiste in his disobedience obstinaeie & wilfullnesse that then such obstinate & disorderly persons shall be put of & discontinued & not be any longer of the said comunaltie vntill it shall be thought otherwise by the wardens & more parte of the said Comunaltie upon his amendement & reformacon the said fines to be levied by the said wardens as hath bin accustomed in such like cases within the said Borougli.

Item it is finally ordered & sett downe that the said wardens for the time being shall dureing the time & yeare of their wardenshippe levie receive & keepe all the said fines & forfeitures before menconed & these that shall be due to the said Bishop of Durham & his Successors shall pay over within one month next after they shall be levied in manner & rule aforesaid and the rest which shall be due to the said societie to pay & disburse from time to time as shall be appointed by the more parte of the said societie & the residue that shall remaine att the yeares end to pay & make accompt to their next Successors wardens of the said Comunaltie & that the said Clerke for the time being shall from time to time enter and register all the said accompts doings & pceedings of the said comunaltie in a booke & deliver the same to his next Successors wardens & Clerke of the said Comunaltie and further a Chist shall be provided att the comon charges of the said Societie which shall be ever in the custodie of the eldest or first of the said fouer wardens wherein shall be safelie kept the Charter of the said Corporacon seale & booke of orders & all such stocke of money & other things as shall belong to the comon vse of the said wardens & Comunaltie & of the same Chist shall be fouer keys whereof one shall allwaies bee in the keeeping of the eldest wardaine & the other three in the keeeping of the other wardens for the time being who shall deliver the same over to their Successors wardens of the said Comunaltie att the yeares end by & in the View & psence of the said societie or the moste parte of them.

All and everie which orders by the aforesaid honest men sett downe and agreed vpon to be observed fulfilled & kept by them & everie their Successors who hereafter shall exercise occupie or trade the said severall occupacons arts seiences or misteries or any of them within the said Borough & towne of Gateside in manner & forme as before is recited.

Wee by these psents for vs & our Successors doe much as in vs is doe ratifie allow & approve to be performed observed & kept by all & every the persons which now are or hereafter shall fortune to be free of the said Community soe far forth as the same orders are agreeable & not contrary to the lawes statutes & ordinances of the Realme of England & untill wee or our Successors shall otherwise ordeine in the pmisses the Right & honour of our Church of Durham & the right of all other pson or psons whatsoever allwaies saved & reserved.

In Witness wee have made these our letters Pattents Given at Durham by the hands of Sir Francis Goodricke knight Chancellor of the County Pallatine of Durham & Sadberdge the twentyfourth day of Aprill in the thre & twentieth yeare of the Reigne of our sovereigne lord Charles the second by the grace of God king of England Scotland France & Ireland defender of the faith &c. and of our consecracon the Eleventh, Annoq Dñi 1671.